

INTERVIEW SUMMARY UNDER 37 CFR §1.133 AND MPEP §713.04

A telephonic interview in the above-referenced case was conducted on January 21, 2004 between the Examiner and the Applicants' undersigned representative. The Final Office Action mailed on December 16, 2003 was discussed. Specifically, the rejections of claims 1, 6-9, and 20-28 and the proposed amendments set forth herein were discussed with the intent to place the claims in better condition for allowance or appeal. The Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for his time and attention in this case.

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 22 have been amended to clarify the subject matter regarded as the invention. Claims 1, 6-9, and 20-28 remain pending.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 6-9, and 20-28 under 35 U.S.C. §103.

The rejection is respectfully traversed. As amended, claim 1 recites an interactive radio frequency tag apparatus comprising "...one or more integrated circuits responsive to an external stimulus received at said interface to irreversibly change a state of said transponder between a first active state in which the transponder provides a first active response when polled by a polling device and a second active state in which the transponder provides a second active response when polled by said polling device, wherein the external stimulus responds to an irreversible change in a material property of a component of the interactive radio frequency tag apparatus." Want et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,008,727), Armstrong (U.S. Patent No. 5,461,385), Werb (U.S. Patent No. 6,483,427), and Santin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,313,848) do not teach or suggest, either individually or combined, responding to an irreversible change in a material property of a component of an interactive radio frequency tag apparatus. Thus, Applicants submit that claim 1 is allowable for the reasons stated above.

Claims 6-9, 20 and 21 depend from claim 1 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above. Claim 22 was amended similarly to claim 1 and is also believed to be allowable for the same reasons as those stated above. Further, as claims 23-28 depend from claim 22, Applicants submit that these claims are allowable for the reasons stated above for claim 1.

Reconsideration of the application and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested based on the preceding remarks. If at any time the Examiner believes that an interview would be helpful, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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